duce a feeling of well being in debilated patients.

Marketing of tranquilizers with Vitamins

2123. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that combination of Tranquilizers with Vitamins are allowed for marketing in the country;

(b) what are the basis on which such combinations have been cleared for marketing and what are the rational for such combinations;

(c) whether any trial on these combinations were done;

(d) if so, what are the side effects and advantage of this combination over single drug formulations;

(e) the names of leading brands being marketed in the country along with names of manufacturers; and

(f) what are the diseases for which such combinations are used?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The formulations containing tranquillizers and vitamins were licensed more than a decade ago by the State Licensing Authorities, at a time when the criteria for licensing formulations was not based on rationality but mostly on safety, efficacy and compliance for fixed dose of combinations.

The clinical trails of combinations of individual approved drugs were not insisted on by the Licensing Authorities in the past. There is no clinical trials as such to prove the advantage of such combinations over single drugs.

(e) The names of leading brands of combinations containing tranquillizers with vitamins as reported are—Placidox (M/s Lupin); Diazavit (M/s. Gratus Pharma); Diapam Forte (M/s Medwel); Pentapam Forte (M/s. Medwel) Placipam (M/s Adam Pharma) and Fluril (M/s. Medicare).

(f) These formulations are claimed to be useful for the treatment of anxiety, tension and certain other psychosomatic disorders.

Overcharging of Rifampicin

2124. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain State Drug Authorities received complaints about overcharging the prices of formulations both based on single ingredient as well as in combination of other drugs of Rifampicin;

(b) whether it is also a fact that certain State Drug Authorities made a survey about the prices;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) what is the price of each formulation based on this drug being charged in Kerala and Delhi by chemists;

(e) whether these prices are higher than the notified prices;

(f) if so, what action was taken against the chemists over-charging the prices under Essential Commodity Act; and

(g) what are the names of Chemists where prices were checked?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (g) The information is being collected from the Ministry of Industry (Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals) and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.